

Governance Committee Annual Report for 2025/26

Presented by: Susan Detmer
Date of meeting: June 11, 2026

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

SUMMARY

The Governance Committee reports regularly to Council on changes to the *Council Bylaws and Regulations* and the changes to the bylaws of faculty councils. It also oversees matters of student academic misconduct and appeals, the overall organization of Council's committee structure, and how Council's meetings are conducted. During 2025-26, the committee met nine times.

MEMBERSHIP

THREE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL; A MEMBER OF COUNCIL APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT; THE CHAIRS OF COUNCIL, APC, AND PPC; AND THE PRESIDENT, THE UNIVERSITY SECRETARY, AND THE PRESIDENTS OF THE USSU AND GSA AS NON-VOTING MEMBERS.

Council Members:

Susan Detmer (Chair)	WCVM	2026
Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins	University Library	2028
Scott Bell	Arts and Science	2026
Dani Brittain	Kinesiology	President's Designate

Ex Officio Members:

Vicki Squires	Education	Chair of Council
Chris Willenborg	Agriculture and Bioresources	Chair of PPC
Paul Jones	SENS	Chair of APC

Non-Voting Members:

Julian Demkiw	University Secretary
Emma Wintermute (July to April)	USSU
Abtin Safaeian (May to June)	USSU
Palash Roy	GSA

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 1) Reviewing the Bylaws of Council and recommending to Council revisions to the Bylaws.
- 2) Reviewing the Bylaws of Faculty Councils and recommending to University Council, Colleges, and Schools changes to their Bylaws.

- 3) Reviewing the membership, powers, and duties of committees of Council and recommending to Council revisions to the membership, powers and duties of committees.
- 4) Recommending to Council regulations and procedures for Council and Council committees.
- 5) Advising the University Secretary (or designate) on matters relating to faculty councils and University Council elections.
- 6) Advising Council with respect to its responsibilities and powers under *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995* and recommending to Council on proposed changes to the *Act*.
- 7) Nominating the members and chair of the Nominations Committee of Council to University Council.
- 8) Providing advice to the Chair of Council on the role of the Chair.
- 9) Recommending to Council rules and procedures, including the penalties as prescribed by section 61(1)(h) of *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*, to deal with allegations of academic misconduct on the part of students.
- 10) Recommending to Council rules and procedures to deal with appeals by students and former students concerning academic decisions affecting them as provided in section 61(1)(j) of *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*.
- 11) Designating individuals to act as representatives of the Committee on any other bodies, when requested, where such representation is deemed by the Committee to be beneficial.
- 12) Reporting and recommending to Council on University policies that are within the purview of Council and/or the joint purview of the University's governing bodies.
- 13) To review and approve editorial (not substantive) revisions to the University Council Bylaws (e.g., corrections to title changes for senior administrative positions, spelling, formatting, proofing...), and report them to Council on an annual basis. Such revisions will not change the reading of the Bylaws, their potential interpretations, meanings, or significance.

DECISION ITEMS

The Governance Committee presented the following decision items to University Council:

- October: Amendments to the faculty council bylaws of the College of Medicine.
- October: Filling a vacancy on the Nominations Committee.
- December: Amendments to the faculty council bylaws of the Edwards School of Business.
- January: Amendments to the faculty council bylaws of the College of Nursing.
- January: Amendments to the faculty council bylaws of the College of Agriculture and Bioresources.
- January: Amendments to Council's bylaws to amend the membership of the Planning and Priorities Committee.
- April: Amendments to the faculty council bylaws of the School of Rehabilitation Science.
- May: Amendments to Council's bylaws to change Council's rules of order.
- May: Amendments to the faculty council bylaws of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.
- June: Amendments to Council's bylaws to amend the terms of reference for the Academic Programs Committee.
- June: Amendments to Council's bylaws to amend the terms of reference for the Research, Scholarly and Artistic Works Committee.
- June: Appointments to the Nominations Committee.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Governance Committee presented the following information items to University Council:

- June: Reporting on student appeals in misconduct and academic standing.
- June: Editorial changes to the Council bylaws.
- June: Updated checklist and template for faculty council bylaws.

The Governance Committee also spent considerable time this past year on the following matters, and additional reporting to Council is expected on this in the future:

- 1) The regulations and processes used to manage accusations of academic misconduct.
- 2) The structure, composition, and resources available to university-level appeal boards.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Detmer
Chair, Governance Committee